

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

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TAGS: PFOR UN SS MO

SUBJ: SPANISH SAHARA

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE OF OCTOBER 16
FROM MOROCCAN MISSION TO UN, GIVING "SIGNIFICANT BACKGROUND"
OF SAHARAN ISSUE:

QTE

THE ISSUE OF THE SAHARA UNDER SPANISH DOMINATION--
SOME SIGNIFICANT BACKGROUND

WHEN MOROCCO LAST ITS INDEPENDENCE IN 1912, ITS NATIONAL
TERRITORY WAS DISMEMBERED AND DIVIDED INTO NUMEROUS ZONES
OF INFLUENCE: THE INTERNATIONAL ZONE OF TANGIER,
ON THE STRAIGHTS OF GIBRALTAR; A ZONE OF FRENCH PRO-
TECTORATE IN CENTRAL MOROCCO; A ZONE OF SPANISH PROTECTORATE ON
THE MEDITERRANEAN LITORAL WITH THE TWO CITIES OF CEUTA AND
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MELILLA AS WELL AS MAFFARINE ISLANDS AND THE ISLES OF

VELEZ AND ALHUCEMAS UNDER DIRECT SPANISH SOVEREIGNTY;
THE ENCLAVE OF IFNI ON THE ATLANTIC COAST ALSO UNDER SPANISH
SOVEREIGNTY; THE SOUTHERN SPANISH ZONE OF PROTECTORATE SITUATED
ON THE NORTH OF THE WESTERN SAHARA; A SPANISH COLONY SITUATED
FURTHER SOUTH KNOWN AS SAKIET AL HAMRA; AND FINALLY
A TERRITORY DESIGNATED AS SPANISH SAHARA PROVINCE, WHICH
IS THE FARTHEST SOUTH AND KNOWN AS RIO DO ORO.

IT WAS NATURAL THAT MOROCCO, AFTER REGAINING ITS OWN
INDEPENDENCE, STARTED WORKING IMMEDIATELY TO RECONSTRUCT ITS
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND TO LIBERATE THE PARTS WHICH REMAINED
UNDER FOREIGN RULE. ONLY TANGIER, THE FRENCH ZONE OF PRO-
TECTORATE AND THE NORTHERN SPANISH ZONE OF PROTECTORATE
WERE LIBERATED IN 1956.

MOROCCO PREFERRED PEACEFUL MEANS AND RESORTED TO PATIENT AND LONG
NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN LASTING UP TO NOW TWENTY YEARS.

IN 1958, PART OF THE SOUTHERN PROTECTORATE, HE PROVINCE
OF TARFAYA, WAS EVACUATED BY SPAIN AND REINTEGRATED INTO
MOROCCO, BUT ONLY PART OF IT. IN 1969, SPAIN GAVE BACK THE
ENCLAVE OF IFNI.

THE PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION OF THE REMAINING PARTS OF
MOROCCO'S NATIONAL TERRITORIES IN THE SOUTH MET WITH OBSTINATE
OPPOSITION ON THE PART OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

SINCE 1955, THE UNITED NATIONS HAS REPEATEDLY ASKED SPAIN
TO DECOLONIZE THE TERRITORIES UNDER ITS DOMINATION. SPAIN
RESORTED TO ALL KINDS OF DILATORY TACTICS. IT IMPOSED IN
THE SAHARA A POLICE REGIME AND CREATED A FICTICIOUS ORGANIZATION
WHICH WOULD ONLY LEAD TO PROLONGING SPANISH DOMINATION BEHIND
A FACADE OF LOCAL RULE, SPAIN SO-CALLED ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLES
OF DECOLONIZATION ONLY AFTER HAVING CREATED PREFRABRICATED
ORGANISMS AND SET THEM TO WORK IN ORDER TO SEEK A "SELF-DETERMINATION"

WHICH WILL FAVOUR THE AIMS OF SPAIN IN THE REGION.

THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF COURSE IS ON THE THE
PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS. BUT THERE EXISTS ANOTHER
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PRINCIPLE--NOT LESS IMPORTANT--WHICH IS THAT OF NATIONAL
UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF STATES. IT IS UNDER THIS
BASIC AND FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE THAT MOROCCO PRECISELY
DEFENDS ITS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY BECAUSE THE SAHARA WAS,
BY TIME AND HISTORY,
AN INTEGRAL PART OF ITS TERRITORY.

THIS IS NO MORE ALLEGATION ON THE PART OF MOROCCO. THESE

DEMANDS ARE BACKED BY AN INFINITY OF PROOFS AND DOCUMENTS ALREADY
PRESENTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, WHICH INCLUDE:

-THE ARMED RESISTANCE WHICH WAS OPPOSED TO SPAIN IN THE SAHARA
AT THE TIME OF ITS OCCUPATION;

-DOCUMENTS SHOWING THAT THE KINGS OF MOROCCO ALWAYS
APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION
IN THE SAHARA AND THIS EVEN AT THE TIME OF OCCUPATION;

-THE FACT THAT SPAIN ACCEPTED THE DELEGATE OF THE KING OF
MOROCCO IN THESE PROVINCES, AND HIS SUCCESSOR SONS, AND
HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THEIR POWERS REGARDLESS OF THE OCCUPATION;

"CERTAIN ACTS CARRIED OUT BY SPAIN ITSELF PROVE THAT BETWEEN
1912 AND 1956 SPAIN ALWAYS RECOGNIZED THE SAHARA AS
MOROCCAN;

"MULTIPLE INTERNATIONAL TREATIES WHICH WERE SIGNED BETWEEN
17YU AND 1911 BY MOROCCO AND SPAIN, AND IN OTHER CASES BY
FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN AND GERMANY OR BY TWO OR MORE OF
THESE EUROEPAN COUNTRIES AMONG THEMSELVES. IT WAS ALWAYS
RECOGNIZED THAT THE SAHARA WAS PART OF MOROCCO. THESE ARE
THE TREATIES OF: 1967, 1786, 1836, 1856, 1861, 1895
1900, 1902, 1904, 1906, 1911 AND 1912.

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